

TERMS OF REFERENCE
OF THE
PRODUCT REVIEW GROUP, DCI/IC

MISSION

1. The Product Review Group, operating under direction of the Deputy to the Director of Central Intelligence, Intelligence Community, has staff responsibility for studies, analyses and recommendations which will support the DCI in execution of his assigned responsibilities to improve the U.S. intelligence product.

RESPONSIBILITIES

2. The Chief, Product Review Group, is responsible to the D/DCI/IC for:

a. Drafting of such DCI directives and other communications to the U.S. intelligence community as are needed to amplify and give full effect to National Security Council Intelligence Committee (NSCIC) guidance and direction.

b. Preparing studies and recommendations and maintaining liaison with major intelligence consumers, and particularly with the NSC Staff, in the interest of developing channels and means by which the responsiveness of intelligence products to U.S. security and policy needs can be assessed and any inadequacies rectified.

c. Preparing for DCI issuance, and reviewing and updating as appropriate, statements of U.S. intelligence objectives and priorities as guidance for the production of intelligence and the focus of collection activities.

d. Formulating and maintaining an overview of a comprehensive program relating to the improvement of intelligence products as basis for DCI actions intended to increase intelligence responsiveness to national needs, improve the quality of analysis, eliminate any unneeded product duplication and improve timeliness of the output.

e. Providing staff support for the NSCIC Working Group.

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3. The Product Review Group activity will focus primarily on two areas of activity:

a. The promotion of a meaningful interface between the intelligence community and its consumers in the interest of improving the responsiveness of the intelligence product to national security and policy needs. Guidance from the NSCIC, output of the Net Assessment Group of the NSC Staff, activities of the NSCIC Working Group, and such documents as the DCID 1/2 statement of "U.S. Intelligence Objectives and Priorities," will be key elements of this interface.

b. The preparation or supervision of studies and reviews as necessary for a comprehensive DCI program of product improvement which embraces:

(1) The identification of consumer needs and enhancement of the means by which these needs are communicated to the intelligence community;

(2) The evaluation of intelligence products by principal consumers;

(3) The examination of the production process throughout the intelligence community in terms of its inputs and outputs, division of responsibilities, extent of duplication, coordination involved, and resources used; and

(4) The investigation of analyst motivations, analytical techniques, tools for analyst support, and other factors involved in an effort to improve the quality of the analysis applied to intelligence production.

4. It is expected that the Product Review Group will have a major initiative role in efforts to identify new or unsatisfied consumer needs and their relative priority. Consumers, as represented primarily by the Departments of State and Defense and the National Security Council, are expected to have the principal role in evaluation of the responsiveness and quality of specific intelligence products, with the Product Review Group providing support for the interface between consumers and production elements of the intelligence community.

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5. In furtherance of the DCI program for product improvement, the Product Review Group, with its own resources or with support from the intelligence community, will assemble such data as is required for analysis of the production effort. Included in this data base will be bibliographies and information on the allocation of resources to production, by agency and target, and on the size and composition of the intelligence analyst force engaged in production. The information assembly program is to be structured to provide support to the DCI in his response to the charge in National Security Council Intelligence Directive No. 1 that "The quality, scope and timeliness of the community's product must be improved."

UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET	
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		DATE	INITIALS	
1	[Redacted] Chief/DSG		5/16/72	MCH	
2	M. J. Harris				
3					
4					
5					
6					
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN	
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE	

Remarks:

Mr. Tweedy has informally approved the attached terms of reference for PRG. Before I make it formal, however, is there anything in this that gives you heartburn?